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Message Text

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ORIGIN SNM-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-14
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DRAFTED BY S/NM:RLRETKA:BRC
APPROVED BY S/NM:JHLINNEMANN
S/NM:HGROOM(DRAFT)
ARA/RPP:EPERREAULT(DRAFT)
S/NM:DASOHLIN(DRAFT)
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R 102245Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LIMA ROUTINE LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY QUITO

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:SNAR, PE

SUBJECT: PROPOSED COCA RESEARCH CONFERENCE
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1. LAST YEAR THE EMBASSY INQUIRED ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF SHIFTING THE UPCOMING NIDA CONFERENCE ON COCA USE FROM CALIFORNIA TO PERU. AT THAT TIME IT WAS DECIDED THAT A CHANGE IN VENUE FOR THE NIDA CONFERENCE WOULD NOT BE FEASIBLE. DURING HIS FEBRUARY VISIT TO WASHINGTON, AMBASSADOR SCHLAUDEMAN SUGGESTED THAT A SEPARATE BUT COMPLEMENTARY CONFERENCE BE HOSTED BY THE GOP WITH INC SUPPORT. WE ARE INTERESTED IN PURSUING THIS MATTER FURTHER.

2. FROM OUR PERSPECTIVE, SEVERAL ISSUES COULD BE ADDRESSED USEFULLY BY A SMALL WORKING GROUP OF RESEARCHERS AND POLICY PLANNERS FROM PERU, BOLIVIA, AND ECUADOR. QUESTIONS
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TO BE ADDRESSED COULD INCLUDE THE EXTENT, NATURE AND CONSEQUENCES OF INDIGENOUS COCA, COCA PASTE, AND COCAINE CONSUMPTION, ALTERNATIVE USES FOR THE COCA PLANT, AND PROCEDURES FOR MONITORING LEGITIMATE COCA PRODUCTION. WE ARE NOT INTERESTED IN SPONSORING A PURELY ACADEMIC DISCUSSION OF THESE ISSUES; RATHER, WE WOULD EXPECT THE MEETING TO YIELD A SERIES OF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SPECIFIC RESEARCH

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PROJECTS. MOREOVER, WE WOULD WANT THESE RECOMMENDATIONS TO REFLECT AN INTEGRATED POSITION ON THE PART OF THE PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES.

3. WE WOULD ENVISION THE PROPOSED WORKSHOP AS BEING ORGANIZED AND IMPLEMENTED ENTIRELY BY THE GOP, ALBEIT WITH SOME USG FINANCIAL SUPPORT. THUS, THE GOP WOULD BE EXPECTED TO ADMINISTER THE TRAVEL, PER DIEM, AND RELATED COSTS OF ALL PARTICIPANTS (INCLUDING ANY U.S. EXPERTS THAT MIGHT BE INVITED) AS WELL AS THE PREPARATION OF A WORKSHOP REPORT.

4. WE WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY VIEWS ON THE WORKSHOP DISCUSSED ABOVE. IF EMBASSY BELIEVES THE PROJECT SHOULD BE PURSUED, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF A ROUGH COST ESTIMATE COULD BE DEVELOPED BY KNOWLEDGEABLE MISSION STAFF. PLEASE ADVISE. VANCE

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TAGS: SNAR, PE
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